Claims:

1. A sustained release pharmaceutical composition comprising a cephalosporin antibiotic, a mixture of polymers comprising of galactomannans and neutral swellable polymers, and other pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

2. The composition according to claim 1, which comprises about 30% to about 90% by weight of a cephalosporin antibiotic; about 1 % to about 30% by weight of said mixture of polymers comprising from about 0.1% to about 15% by weight galactomannans, and about 0.1% to about 15% by weight of neutral swellable polymer by weight of sustained release composition.

3. The composition according to claim 1, which comprises about 30 % to about 90 % by weight of cephalosporin antibiotic, about 1 % to about 20 % by weight of mixture of said polymers comprising of galactomannans in an amount from about 0.1 % to about 12 % by weight and neutral swellable polymer in an amount from about 0.1 % to about 12 % by weight of sustained release composition.

4. The composition as claimed in claim 1, in the form of a tablet.

5. The composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cephalosporin antibiotic is released at a rate suitable for once daily or twice daily administration.

6. The composition according to claim 1, wherein the cephalosporin antibiotic is selected from Cephalexin, Cefprozil, Cefditoren pivoxil, Cefadroxil, Cefpodoxime proxetil, Cefuroxime axetil, Cefaclor, Cefamandole, Cefoxitin, Cephalothin, Cephapirin, Ceftizoxime, Cefonicid and their pharmaceutically acceptable hydrates, salts or esters.

7. The composition according to claim 1, wherein the galactomannans used is selected from the group consisting of xanthan gum, guar gum or locuat bean gum.

8. The composition according to claim 1, wherein the neutral swellable polymer is Poly (ethyl acrylate: methyl methacrylate) 2:1.

9. The composition according to claim 1, wherein the excipients are water soluble or water dispersible diluents, disintegrants, binders, lubricants, plasticizers, film forming agents, etc., used either alone or in combination thereof.

10. The composition according to claim 9, wherein the water soluble or water dispersible diluent comprises about 1 to 30% by weight of the composition.

11. The composition as claimed in claim 9, wherein the water soluble diluents are lactose, mannitol, glucose, sorbitol, maltose, dextrates or dextrins.

12. The composition as claimed in claim 9, wherein the water dispersible diluent is microcrystalline cellulose, pregelatinized starch, croscarmellose sodium, sodium starch glycollate, calcium carboxymethyl cellulose, copolyvidonum (Plasdone S-630), or mixtures thereof.

13. The composition as claimed in claim 9, wherein the tablet binder concentration is in the range of about 0.2 % to about 12 % by weight of the total weight of composition.

14. The composition as claimed in claim 9, wherein the binder is selected from polyvinyl pyrrolidone, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxyethyl cellulose, gelatin, pregelatinized starch, or sugar.

15. The composition as claimed in claim 9, wherein the lubricant concentration is in the range of about 0.2 % to about 5 % by weight of the total weight of composition.

16. The composition as claimed in claim 9, wherein the lubricant used is selected from talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate, colloidal silicon dioxide, calcium stearate, zinc stearate, hydrogenated vegetable oil, or mixtures thereof.

17. A process for the preparation of the sustained release pharmaceutical composition, the said method comprising the steps of:

(i) mixing the active ingredient, excipients and galactomannans in a mixer,

(ii) granulating the mixture with neutral swellable polymer,

(iii) drying the granules by either tray drier or fluid bed drier,

(iv) milling the dried granules followed by addition and blending of dry binder and lubricant(s),

(v) compressing the lubricated granules into tablets using a tablet press and, if desired, coating the tablets.

18. A process for the preparation of the sustained release pharmaceutical composition, the said method comprising the steps of:

(i) mixing the active ingredient, excipients and galactomannans in a mixer,

(ii) compacting the mixture and sizing it by passing through sieve,

(iii) granulating the mixture with neutral swellable polymer,

(iv) drying the granules by either tray drier or fluid bed drier,

(v) milling the dried granules followed by addition and blending of dry binder and lubricant(s),

(vi) compressing the lubricated granules into tablets using a tablet press and, if desired, coating the tablets.